



PATENT *B*
Attorney Docket No.: 041465-5134 *Qfw*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Takahiro KATO et al)	Confirmation No. 3634
)	
Application No.: 10/058,857 ✓)	Group Art Unit: 2652
)	
Filed: January 30, 2002)	Examiner: T. CHEN
)	
For: SUPPORT MECHANISM AND FEEDING)	Notice of Allowance Mailed:
UNIT INCLUDING SAME)	September 27, 2004

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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(d), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(c) but before the payment of the issue fee for the above-identified application. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), a fee of \$180.00, as specified by § 1.17(p) is due for filing this IDS. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this \$180.00 fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a European Search Report issued by the European Patent Office on September 6, 2004 in a counterpart foreign application. Hence, each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any

communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

While the European Search Report cites to U.S. Patent No. 6,046,974, that reference is not listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 because it was already cited in this application by the Examiner on a PTO-892 Form attached to the Office Action dated June 19, 2003.

A copy of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any additional fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: September 30, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

 Attorney Docket No.
041465-5134

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(Use several sheets if necessary)

PTO Form 1449

Applicants: Takahiro KATO et al.

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Filing Date: January 30, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2652

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	6,058,098	May 2, 2000	Kato	369	219	Feb. 18, 1998
	5,872,766	Feb. 16, 1999	Chaya	369	244	Jan. 16, 1997

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	<u>Translation</u> YES NO	
JP 2000251422	Sep. 14, 2000	Japan (English-language Abstract only)				
JP 2002100130	Apr. 5, 2002	Japan (English-language Abstract only)				
EP 1 189 214	Mar. 20, 2002	Europe				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.